As regards the weaving school at Nagercoil, you want certain improved arrangements. The textile expert is touring and supervising the working of that institution. You want the appointment of a committee for such supervision. Your representation will be considered.

Your representations for the opening of a departmental English School for girls at Vadasseri and for the treatment of Salias as backward for the purpose of half-fee concession in English Schools are noted.

170. Problem of unemployment among educated young men.

Mr. D. C. Joseph (Member, Nominated) in dealing with the problem of unemployment, pointed out the unwholesome consequences which the present system of education was producing in Travancore. With the extensive advancement of education many young men who came out fresh from schools and colleges were compelled to resort to the Law College and the public service for finding employment. The bar in many places was already overcrowded, while the public service was not a perennial source of help to the unemployed. The question was one which deserved the earnest attention of the Government. The Member suggested certain measures towards a solution of the problem in question.

Officers who were incapacitated by age or ill-health should, on no account, be retained in the public service. On no account should extensions of service be given to officers. Foreigners should not be imported into the public service, to the prejudice of the claims of qualified sons of the soil. The standard of the School Leaving Examination should be raised; the Law College should be temporarily closed; the instruction imparted in the Mechanical Overseers' class should be made more practical; the study of the vernaculars should be encouraged; the University scheme in contemplation should be dropped; vocational training should be imparted to pupils in schools, for which purpose a conference of the Director of Public Instruction and the representatives of the people should be held; and a school of commerce should be opened at Trivandrum. The rules under the Land Colonisation Scheme should be so liberalised as to make it attractive to the people at large. The Departments of Agriculture and Industries should encourage the growth of cottage industries by helping them with grants-in-aid wherever necessary.

President's reply.—Mr. Joseph, your remarks regarding vocational education are noted. You next spoke about cottage industries and said that industrial education should be promoted. The Government are doing their best in this direction, as far as finances permit.

Then you said that the Law College should be stopped, as it turns out more and more lawyers and increases litigation to the detriment of the country. Your representation is noted.

Your suggestions for the better working of the Mechanical Overseers' class are also noted.

You emphasised that officers should be retired as soon as they were fifty-five years old. You said that equal opportunities should be given to all subjects of His Highness the Maha Raja in the public service and you also referred to the dropping of the University scheme. These are some of the important points to which you alluded. All these points will receive the attention of the Government.

171. Communal representation with special reference to educational concessions to backward classes.

Mr. C. Krishnan Vaidyan (Member, Nominated) said that Government hesitated to comply with the requests contained in the memorial presented by the Ezhava members of the Assembly in regard to certain educational matters and that such hesitation was naturally due to a majority of the members of the Legislative Council being opposed to the claims advanced. But, as the memorialists really deserved the concessions applied for, the Member prayed that the same might be granted.

The Member pointed out that the representations made by two Ezhava members at the Assembly in regard to the Ezhava Bill should not be taken as reflecting the opinion of the Ezhava community or that of the *misradayee* section

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thereof. Those members were speaking on behalf of the conservative section which formed but a small minority among Ezhavas. The Government would be doing a wrong if they proposed to accept the views of that section without paying due regard to the sentiments of the community as a whole. The Member hoped that, if the Government thought of altering the Bill in any respect, such alteration should consist only in provision being made for individual partition and *makkathayam*.

The Member next stated that Mahomedans and non-caste Hindus together formed about more than 50 per cent. of the population of the State. But, in spite of their numerical strength, they remained but meagrely represented in the two most important public bodies in the State, *viz.*, the Legislative Council and the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly. Owing to the existence of communal strife in the country, the members of the above communities could not succeed in commanding a sufficient number of votes at the general elections. The Member thought that it was the duty of the Government to safeguard the interests of such sections of the people as were not adequately represented in the public bodies of the State. He urged the desirability of adopting the principle of communal representation so as to remove the existing inequalities and prayed that the rules and Regulations might be suitably modified to secure the object in view.

President's reply.—With regard to the Ezhava Bill, you said that the Bill, as drafted by the Council, should be passed without any changes and that the representations of Mr. Krishnan Asan and Mr. Padmanabhan Vaidyan on the subject were not the real voice of the community. Your remarks are noted.

You said that the Electoral Rules relating to the Legislative Council and the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly should be so revised as to enable each community to secure seats in proportion to its strength. Your representation is noted.

172. Constitutional Reforms.

Mr. Kanakku Tampi Chempakaraman Sankaran (Member, Kalkulam taluk) said that Travancore was far in advance of other Indian States, in point of education and that the desire of the people for securing responsible Government was only just and proper. He argued that the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly and the Legislative Council were unsuited to modern standards of civilisation. The following defects regarding the present Legislative Council were pointed out by him:—

(1) Section 11 of the Travancore Legislative Council Regulation, II of 1097, was objected to on the ground that it took away from the scope of the Council many matters of public interest which should be discussed and decided by the members and which should not be left to the judgment of one person, thereby giving rise to several mistakes and consequent discontent among the people.

(2) The Legislative Council had not full powers to discuss and vote on the budget. The Member urged that the distinction between votable and non-votable items in the budget should be done away with.

(3) Many members were at a disadvantage in voting as they chose, because the Dewan presided over the Legislative Council meetings, while the members felt greater security and freedom in voting when the Deputy President presided. He therefore pointed out that the Dewan should not be the President of the Legislative Council.

(4) The usefulness of the Legislative Council was largely diminished on account of the non-official members accepting office or other remuneration from the Government and the Member therefore urged the necessity for a rule prohibiting non-official members from accepting *any* remuneration from the Government.

(5) The disallowance of questions and resolutions brought forward by the members was then criticised by the Member. He said that the benefits that the Regulation conferred on the members and the public were being taken away from them. Even when questions were admitted, the answers given by the Government were vague or evasive. As an instance of the latter, he pointed out the answers given to the question relating to the alleged receipt of commission from the firm of Messrs. Ferris & Co. The Member also observed that a resolution regarding the

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